

Remarks

Claims 1-12, 17-19 21-23, 27-31 remain in the application.

The Examiner has imposed a second restriction requirement between:

Group I – claims 16-23, drawn to a semiconductor device, classified in class 219, subclass 121.64; and

Group II – claims 1-12 and 27-29, drawn to a process of joining two silicon parts, classified in class 427 and subclass 455

The restriction between Group II and claims 17 and 21 is traversed. The invention of Group II is elected subject to that traverse. Claims 16 and 20 of Group I have been canceled. The dependencies of claims 18, 19, 22, and 23 have been amended to depend from the traversed product claims.

Applicants continue to believe that the identified classes are incorrectly characterized and that all claims may be included in both classes. Nonetheless, in interest of expediting prosecution, product claims 16 and 20 are canceled with right to continue their prosecution at a later time.

The Examiner asserts that the product and method claims of the two groups are distinct since the product can be made by other methods, such as chemical vapor deposition or selective epitaxy. The reason for including the second method is not understood. However, the argument does not apply to claims 17 and 21, now rewritten in independent form. These two product claims require plasma sprayed silicon layers, consistent with the requirement of base method claims 1 and 27. Accordingly, product claims 17 and 21 are not distinct from the method claims.

New dependent product claims have been added to additionally require an adhesive between the two silicon parts, as supported at page 10, lines 10-21 of the filed specification.

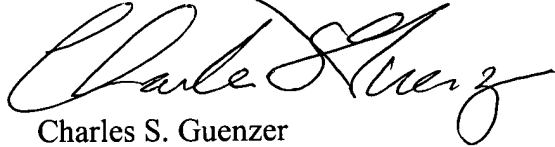
An Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith.

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In view of the above amendments and remarks, consideration and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would be helpful, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the listed telephone number, which is on California time.

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Respectfully submitted,


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